(c) the names of the places/units which have been identified for being developed as potential tourists spots during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) whether any integrated planning has been done for development of these places;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the total allocation proposed to be made on these places; and

(g) whether any proposals from Rajasthan are pending with Centre?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (f) The Government is aware of the tourism potential of Rajasthan. However, identification, promotion and development of tourist places in the country is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends Central Financial Assistance under the Product/Infrastructure Development of Destination and Circuits scheme, to project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations which are complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines and *inter-se* seniority subject to availability of funds.

In the Eleventh Plan till date, Central Financial Assistance has been sanctioned to the following infrastructure projects of Rajasthan.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount
	2007-08	
1.	Flood-lighting of Monument in Rajasthan	800.00
2.	Destination Development of Shekhawati	754.46
	2008-09	
1.	Development of Udaipur	241.37
2.	Conservation and Rstoration of Bala Qila and Kankwari Fort Alwar.	480.61

(g) No proposal under the extant Schemes is pending with the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

Effect of global economic recession on tourism

†2470. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current global economic recession has also affected the tourism industry in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the terror attacks in Mumbai has affected the tourism industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (d) The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during January-November 2008 is estimated at 4.84 million, which is higher than the FTAs of 4.48 million during January-November 2007. However the growth rate in FTAs during January-November 2008 over the corresponding period of 2007 is only 8% as compared to growth rate of 14.8% in FTAs during January-November 2007 over the corresponding period of 2006. The lower growth rate in 2008 may be due to various reasons including the global financial meltdown and terrorist activities.

Floods affected areas

2471. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the floods affected areas in the country has increased in independent India;

(b) how much amount has so far been spent to control the recurrence of floods; and

(c) how much damaged in monetary terms caused by the floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir. Based upon the data available from 1953 to 2007, there is no trend in the increase in flood affected areas in the country.

(b) As per the report of Working Group on "Water Resources" for Eleventh Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.12362.60 crore has been spent upto the end of Tenth Five Year Plan on flood control.

(c) As per the information received from various States, the total flood damages in monetary terms from 1953-2007 has been estimated as Rs.1,00,020.947 crore.

Pending irrigation projects in Rajasthan

2472. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to approve irrigation projects of Rajasthan lying pending with the Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date and the reasons causing delay therein; and

(c) by when these pending irrigation projects are proposed to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) At present, 7 new major and 7 new medium irrigation projects of Rajasthan are under various stages of appraisal out of which, 7 projects (4 major and 3 medium) have been found acceptable by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry